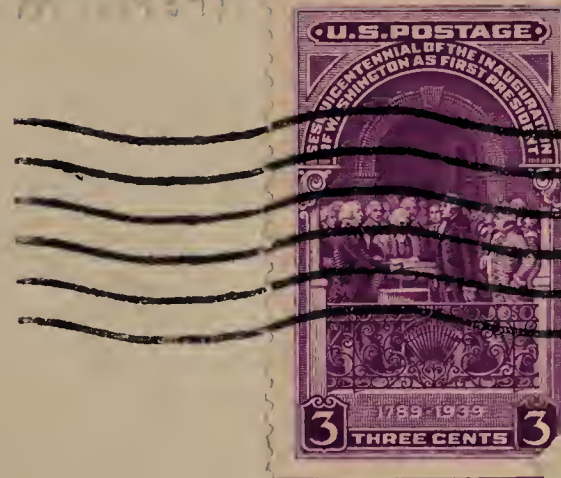




*One Hundred Years Ago, On June 13,
1839, The Logan County Circuit Court,
An Important Point On The Lincoln
Circuit, Convened At Postville For
The First Time.*



*Old Logan County Court House
Formerly At Lincoln*



Dr. Louis A. Warren

Lincoln National Life
Foundation

Fort Wayne Indiana

71.2009.084.11444

On June 13, 1839, The Logan
County Circuit Court, An
Important Point On The
Lincoln Circuit, Condensed At
Postville For The First Time.



Quaint old courthouse-history, too,
For Lincoln oft' was guest of you;
Geronou.

DURING the winter of 1838-1839, the Illinois Legislature in session at Vandalia, established fifteen new counties, a greater number than in any other year in the state's history. Logan County, named for Dr. John Logan, pioneer physician, and the father of General John A. Logan, was among the new counties formed. It was established on February 15, 1839, and eight days later was included in the Eighth Judicial District—The Lincoln Circuit. During the spring of 1839 the commissioners located the county seat at Postville, a village made up of a few stores and perhaps a dozen families.

When the first circuit court term convened at Postville on June 13, 1839, the Deskins Tavern, the only hostelry in town, was converted into a temporary court house. Within a year, however, a building devoted entirely to county business was erected and claimed the title of Logan County's first court house. This now historic building served the county until 1848 when the county seat was removed to Mt. Pulaski.

It was at Postville, that Abraham Lincoln, junior partner of the law firm of Stuart and Lincoln, began his legal activities in Logan County. It is understood traditionally and from documentary sources that his practice in the county was extensive. Court records would no

doubt bear out this statement, but the bulk of the county's records were destroyed by fire in 1857.



POSTVILLE COURT HOUSE SITE
FROM 1839 TO 1848 THE SEAT OF
LOGAN COUNTY WAS POSTVILLE,
WHICH CENTERED IN THE COURT
HOUSE LOCATED ON THIS SITE. IN
THIS STRUCTURE ABRAHAM LIN-
COLN, A MEMBER OF THE TRAVEL-
ING BAR OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT, ATTENDED COURT TWICE
A YEAR.

THEODORE S. CHARNNEY

The cachet symbolic of this event is the old Postville Court House now at Dearborn Michigan. Because the town of Postville is non-existent, this cover is mailed from Lincoln, its lineal predecessor. Prepared by the POOR RICHARD PRESS, 5053 Montana Street. Chicago, Illinois.



71.2009.084.11444



*Old Postville Court House
Greenfield Village - Dearborn Michigan*

The little towns, the county seats,
With dreaming squares and idling streets,
Plain homes of plainer pioneers,
Unsung, yet hallowed through the years
Because in distant times they saw
Him come and go to practice law,
Tell homely tales, crack homely jokes
And neighbor with the common folks—
The little towns, the country roads,
The woods, the prairies, the abodes
Of humble men where malice fails
And charity for all avails—
These are the shrines that still enfold
The heart of Lincoln as of old
Whose living legend runneth thus:
We loved him; he was one of us.

*From "The Lincoln Circuit"
By E. O. Laughlin*